

**MINUTES
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
BOARD MEETING
MARCH 21, 2008**

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges (SBCJC) met at 9:00 a.m. at the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges, 3825 Ridgewood Road, Room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi, on March 21, 2008.

Members present: Mr. Chip Crane, Mr. Bobby Steinriede, Mrs. Brenda Yonge, Mr. Henry (Bubba) Hudspeth, Mr. Max Huey, Mr. Bruce Martin, Mr. Ed Perry, and Mr. George Walker. The following members were absent: *Mrs. Patricia (Pat) Dickens and Mr. Napoleon Moore.*

SBCJC Staff in attendance: Dr. Eric Clark, Dr. Jason Pugh, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert, Dr. Larry Day, Mrs. Janet Dominy, Mrs. Missy Saxton, Dr. Debra West, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Mr. Ray Smith, Mr. Christian Pruett, and Mr. Terry Pollard.

Guests in attendance: Mrs. Marie Antoon, Mississippi Public Broadcasting (MPB), Dr. Reggie Sykes, Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) and Mr. Chuck Rubisoff, Office of the Attorney General.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. George Walker called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

PRELIMINARIES.

Mr. Bubba Hudspeth gave the invocation.

Approval of the Minutes of the January 18, 2008 Meeting

In a motion made by Mr. Bobby Steinriede and seconded by Mr. Chip Crane, the SBCJC board **voted unanimously** to approve the minutes of the February 14 and 15, 2008 meeting.

Approval of Agenda

In a motion made by Mr. Hudspeth and seconded by Mr. Max Huey, the SBCJC board **voted unanimously** for approval of the day's agenda.

REPORTS/ACTION

Mrs. Marie Antoon, Executive Director of Mississippi Public Broadcasting (MPB), was present to share and discuss information related to EDNET. Mrs. Antoon, by virtue of her position of Executive Director of MPB, is the President of the EDNET board.

SBCJC Board Meeting Minutes
Friday, March 21, 2008

Mrs. Antoon provided a history on the SBCJC owned leases. She provided handouts pertaining to SBCJC owned licenses, bandwidth and geographical location of areas covered by the SBCJC leases. She stated that the term of the SBCJC leases is ten (10) years, from 2006-2016.

Attorney General Counsel, Mr. Chuck Rubisoff, asked Mrs. Antoon for copies of the EDNET board meeting minutes from 1999 to present, for the purpose of review and to have a full understanding of what EDNET is all about. Ms. Antoon said she will provide EDNET minutes to Mr. Rubisoff.

Mr. Rubisoff said he would make a major effort between today and the next board meeting in April, to get his hands around this issue. Mr. Rubisoff said that over time, there has been confusion about EDNET's rights and obligations due to there being so many points to consider and SBCJC not having all of the information to consider. Mr. Rubisoff stated that Mrs. Antoon has been great at providing information and hopefully, this information will help answer any questions that the SBCJC board members might have regarding disbursement of funds.

Dr. Clark asked that Mr. Rubisoff provide the SBCJC board members with several proposed options at the April board meeting, regarding EDNET disbursement solutions.

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Clark said that he is glad to be here and he is excited to be on the SBCJC team.

Dr. Clark announced that Dr. Jason Pugh will be leaving the SBCJC staff in May. Dr. Pugh has accepted the position of Vice-President at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College (MGCCC). A round of applause was given to Dr. Pugh.

Dr. Clark said at last month's MACJC Association meeting, Mr. Don Wilson, of Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), had spoken to that group and requested the cooperation of the SBCJC and MACJC Presidents in having a person on staff as the designated emergency contact person. Dr. Clark has designated SBCJC staff member, Mr. Rodney Hodges, as the emergency contact person. Mr. Hodges will be contacting the Presidents to ask for a representative from each campus to be selected as the emergency contact person.

Dr. Clark reported that Washington County had repaid the SBCJC a portion of the \$113,916.22 funds spent on Textron. These workforce training funds were repaid because Textron moved out of town.

Since Dr. Stonecypher's retirement, Dr. Clark has been asked to sit on the board of two organizations: the West Alabama/East Mississippi WIRED Grant Board and the Momentum Mississippi Board and Steering Committee.

Dr. Pugh interjected that one of the responsibilities of the SBCJC was to appoint a board member to the board of Mississippi Public Broadcasting. Dr. Pugh stated that he was originally appointed in 2002 and in recent years he has been reappointed. Dr. Pugh stated the appointment is a responsibility that he is going to have to give up, due to his resignation from SBCJC. Dr. Pugh recommended to the SBCJC board that they make an appointment at the April board meeting. The appointee could be from SBCJC staff,

SBCJC Board Meeting Minutes
Friday, March 21, 2008

SBCJC board members, or an individual from outside the agency.

Mr. George Walker asked the board members to be thinking about this for the April board meeting and asked that it be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Dr. Clark said that Mr. Charles Holder, chairman of the South Mississippi WIRED Steering Committee, had contacted him by letter, asking the SBCJC to review the formula for funding Career and Technical Education Programs; that is, the weighting of the payment for the various types of high cost programs. Dr. Clark said he would appoint a committee to research that formula.

Dr. Clark said Senator Alan Nunnalee asked him about the \$40 million that was received during the last legislative session as the first installment of the Mid-level funding. He said that Senator Nunnalee recognized that SBCJC is asking for \$60 million this year and asking for \$60 million for next year. Senator Nunnalee wants to know what benefit has come to the state from the \$40 million received last year. Our initial response was to send him a letter that stated how we spent the money. Senator Nunnalee wants to know what GOOD the money has done; i.e.; how it has made Mississippi better. We are working on that response now. An email was sent to the community college presidents asking them to share their insight in how that money is making Mississippi better.

Mr. Walker suggested the Mississippi Manufacturing Association as a helpful tool for that information.

Dr. Clark stated that Mr. Hudspeth had asked last month for an update on the Virtual Community College. Mr. Christian Pruett will give an update later in the meeting the Mississippi Virtual Community College (MSVCC).

Dr. Clark mentioned that he would like to have a photo and biographical sketch of our board members on the SBCJC website.

Dr. Clark commented last month that one of his goals is to raise the profile of the community college system. After the legislature dismisses, he is hoping to meet with editorial boards, newspapers and TV stations all around the state. He would like the community college presidents and local board members to present our case to the public and explain to the citizens of Mississippi, the treasure they have in our community college system. Dr. Clark would also like to try and raise the level of appreciation. This is for the citizens as a whole, but this should also filter down to the legislative members.

Dr. Clark mentioned that the SBCJC board members will elect new officers at the April board meeting.

MACJC Report

Dr. Randall Bradberry, on behalf of Dr. David Cole, gave the MACJC Association report. He stated that the MACJC met on February 26, 2008. Highlights from the meeting are: Two students sought approval from the presidents for their dissertations; Dr. Gary Fox and Dr. Fran Fox presented curriculum revisions that were approved by the presidents; Mr. Don Wilson attended the meeting and requested assistance from the community colleges for emergency contacts; Dr. Debra West presented the Practical Nursing Accreditation Manual, which was approved by the presidents; Dr. Clark introduced Mrs. Missy Saxton as his Executive Assistant; Mrs. Deborah Gilbert spoke about \$425,000.00

being transferred to the SBCJC from the support budget, which a portion will be transferred back to the colleges next year; the second Mississippi Community College Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony will be held at Co-Lin on April 22, 2008; Dr. Reggie Sykes gave a report on electronic transcripts and stated the sub-committee made the recommendation to purchase E-SCRIP SAFE, which the presidents voted unanimously to purchase; and the chairman of the MACJC will be changing at the end of June, 2008. The new chairman will be Dr. Willis Lott and the vice-president will be Dr. Scott Elliott.

The SBCJC recessed at 10:10 a.m. and reconvened at 10:20 a.m.

Career Technical Report

Dr. Debra West presented a preliminary application for the Practical Nursing Program at Virginia College.

In a motion made by Mr. Bubba Hudspeth and seconded by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the SBCJC Board **voted unanimously** to approve the preliminary application for the Practical Nursing program at Virginia College.

Dr. West presented a request from Mississippi Delta Community College (MDCC) to expand their Certified Nursing Assistant program to a separate location in Shelby, Mississippi. Dr. West indicated that MDCC has the authority to offer this program and Dr. West recommended that this request be approved.

In a motion made by Mr. Bobby Steinriede and seconded by Mr. Chip Crane, the SBCJC Board **voted unanimously** to approve the new location for the Certified Nursing Assistant program at MDCC.

Dr. West presented a request to place the revised standards for Practical Nursing Accreditation with recommended procedures for documentation and self-study out for APA review.

In a motion by Mr. Max Huey and seconded by Mr. Steinriede, the SBCJC Board **voted unanimously** to approve the request to place the revised standards for Practical Nursing Accreditation with recommended procedures for documentation and self-study out for APA review.

Dr. West presented an update on the Carl Perkins state career and technical plan public hearing schedule. In February, she requested that the SBCJC board put the plan out for APA. She said that the plan needed to have a longer public review period in order to provide public hearings. Two meetings have been held with more in the future. So far, the meetings have had good turnouts and good discussion.

Workforce Report

Dr. Jason Pugh stated that the SBCJC has received a signed agreement with the Mississippi Department of Employment Security (MDES) providing us with a new \$300,000.00 grant to carry out some of our career readiness certificates. SBCJC staff members Mr. Jason Carter and Mr. Rodney Hodges have been working diligently on this agreement for several months.

Dr. Pugh referenced Tab B as the budget report for the month. Dr. Pugh stated that SBCJC has reached an all-time high in our ability to support workforce training activities.

Dr. Pugh stated that the agency has begun the process of requesting equipment needs from the community colleges and plans to spend about \$3 million on equipment across the state.

Dr. Pugh read a letter that expressed appreciation for the opportunity to buy welding equipment for a community college workforce training program.

Accountability and Technology Report

Dr. Larry Day reported that there were no requests for location of classes.

Program Report

Dr. Randall Bradberry referred to Tab C and the bi-monthly report on the Commission on Proprietary Schools.

Dr. Bradberry presented information regarding the discontinuation of the Ruth Lobdell Scholarship at the University of Michigan.

He shared information regarding "diploma mills," specifically, the New Wine School in Northeast Mississippi. This school is awarding high school diplomas based on very limited student participation.

Dr. Bradberry provided information on the Articulation Agreement. He stated that there are many proposed changes to the Articulation Agreement at the university level. Community College CAO's will review these and then meet with IHL representatives. This is a very important safety-net for our students. There will be more information on this in the near future.

In a motion made by Mr. Perry and seconded by Mr. Huey, the SBCJC Board **voted unanimously** to express to the Institutions of Higher Learning that the SBCJC board is concerned with proposed changes to the Articulation Agreement and that we have an acceptable agreement which is practical and advantageous to our students and their institutions and we don't want to see that changed without proper negotiations.

Mr. Christian Pruett presented a PowerPoint presentation, as well as provided a handout, on the Mississippi Virtual Community College (MSVCC).

Legislative Report

Dr. Bradberry reported that there are two upcoming deadlines; March 26th is the deadline for initial floor action on general bills and constitutional amendments originating in the other House. April 1st is the deadline on appropriation revenue bills that originated in the other House. Our appropriation support and administration bills have been assigned to Appropriations in the House. They have passed the Senate. The Bond bill is in the Finance Committee in the Senate. We are looking at all three bills going to conference. Sine die is April 19th.

Finance Report

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert began the Finance report by referring SBCJC members to the Finance agenda tab.

Attachment 1 requests approval of the Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement for March 31, 2008, in the total amount of \$3,066,095.00.

In a motion made by Mr. Perry and seconded by Mr. Crane, the SBCJC Board **voted unanimously** to approve the Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement for March 31, 2008, in the total amount of \$3,066,095.00.

Attachment 2 provides information on the Education Enhancement Fund Reductions for the month of February 2008 of \$585,698.81 and cumulative reduction for the fiscal year of \$2,969,351.04 or -8.1%.

Attachment 3a and 3b show the Financial Statements for Fund 2291 and Special Funds as of February 29, 2008.

Attachment 4 shows House and Senate versions of the SBCJC appropriation bills, Senate Bill 3119 (Administration) and Senate Bill 3120 (CJC Support).

Attachment 5 is a copy of the memorandum from Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) stating the mileage reimbursement rate will increase to \$0.505 cents per mile, effective March 19, 2008.

Mrs. Gilbert provided a handout on our current fidelity bond coverage, as well as information regarding an increase in coverage and premium information and requested action be taken.

In a motion by Mr. Perry, and seconded by Mr. Huey, the SBCJC Board **voted unanimously** to increase the SBCJC's fidelity bond coverage from \$250,000.00 to \$1 million with a \$25,000.00 deductible, increasing our premium payment from \$943.00 to \$966.00, a difference of \$23.00.

Mrs. Gilbert concluded the Finance report.

Travel Authorizations

Mr. Hudspeth and Mr. Huey traveled to Jackson to attend meetings held by the Legislature.

In a motion made by Mr. Hudspeth, and seconded by Mr. Crane, the SBCJC Board **voted unanimously** to approve travel authorizations

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Walker noted that election of SBCJC officers will take place at the April 18, 2008 meeting. This is for the positions of Chairman and Vice-Chairman.


Mr. Walker asked if there were any additional items that needed to be addressed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Hudspeth and seconded by Mr. Huey to adjourn the meeting. The SBCJC board **voted unanimously** to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Recorded by:


Missy Saxton


Mr. George Walker, Chairman


Dr. Eric Clark, Executive Director

Exhibits and Finance Attachments

Career Technical Division Report_____A
Workforce Division Report_____B
Program Division Report_____C
Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement_____Finance Attachment 1
Update on Education Enhancement Fund Reductions_____Finance Attachment 2
Financial Statements-Fund 2291 & Special Funds as of February 29, 2008_____
_____Finance Attachment 3a & 3b
House & Senate Versions of Appropriation Bills_____Attachment 4
DFA Mileage Increase Memo_____Attachment 5

Handouts

Marie Antoon, Mississippi Public Broadcasting, EDNET

Christian Pruett & Terry Pollard, State Board for Community and Junior Colleges,
Mississippi Virtual Community College

Deborah Gilbert, State Board for Community and Junior Colleges, Fidelity Bond
Coverage